

Message Text

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72

ACTION L-02

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 IO-10 OIC-02 AF-06 ARA-10 EA-10

NEA-09 CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00 DOTE-00 EB-07 FMC-02

INR-07 NSAE-00 CG-00 OFA-01 DLOS-05 /084 W

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R 101321Z APR 75

FM AMEMBASSY LONDON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0027

UNCLAS LONDON 05381

FOR L/EB AND IO/OIL (ODELL)

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: OCON, IMCO

SUBJ: IMCO LEGAL COMMITTEE - FUTURE MEETINGS AND SUBJECTS

1. LEGAL COMMITTEE'S DISCUSSION APRIL 9 OF COMMITTEE ORGANIZATION AND FUTURE WORK PROGRAM RESULTED IN CHANGES IN SCHEDULE FOR REMAINDER OF 1975 AND FORMAT FOR 1976 MEETINGS. US POINT THAT COMMITTEE MEETS TOO OFTEN IN LIGHT OF WORK LOAD BEFORE IT SOMEWHAT MORE SYMPATHETICALLY RECEIVED THAN IN THE PAST AND ECHOED BY OTHER DELS. IN PARTICULAR, IDEA OF TWO MEETINGS PER YEAR OF TWO WEEKS EACH ATTAINED MEANINGFUL SUPPORT.

2. COMMITTEE AGREED THAT WORK ON REVISION OF 1957 SHIP-OWNERS LIABILITY CONVENTION SHOULD BE COMPLETED PROMPTLY. TWENTY-SEVENTH MEETING (JUNE 16-20) WILL BE DEVOTED SOLELY TO THIS SUBJECT WITH COMMITTEE DECIDING THEN HOW MUCH MORE TIME NEEDED TO COMPLETE PREPARATORY WORK. IF TWO ADDITIONAL WEEKS NECESSARY AFTER JUNE (AS MOST DELS THOUGHT WOULD BE THE CASE), 28TH AND 29TH SESSIONS WOULD BE HELD BACK-TO-BACK, NOVEMBER 24-28 AND DECEMBER 1-5 (US ONLY DEL WITH HOLIDAY INCONVENIENCE). IF ONLY ONE WEEK CONSIDERED NECESSARY, 29TH SESSION WILL BE ELIMINATED IN ANY CASE, COMMITTEE WILL NOT MEET SEPT. 22-26 AS

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ORIGINALLY PLANNED.

3. IN LIGHT COMMITTEE'S WORK SCHEDULE, DIPLOMATIC CONFERENCE ON 1957 CONVENTION REVISIONS TENTATIVELY SCHEDULED FOR LATE JUNE OR EARLY JULY 1976.

4. COMMITTEE WOULD REQUEST FOUR MEETING WEEKS IN 1976 RATHER THAN FIVE. FIRST MEETING OF COMMITTEE WOULD BE TWO-WEEK SESSION HELD IN MARCH-APRIL PERIOD. TOPIC OF DISCUSSION WOULD BE EXTENSION OF 1969 CIVIL LIABILITY CONVENTION, EITHER TO SUBSTANCES OTHER THAN OIL OR OILS NOT NOW COVERED BY 1969 CONVENTION. OTHER TWO WEEKS WOULD BE SCHEDULED FOR SECOND HALF OF 1976 PREFERABLY AS SINGLE MEETING AND WOULD DISCUSS ANY OF A NUMBER OF SUBJECTS, PARTICULARLY WRECK REMOVAL AND REGIME OF VESSELS IN FOREIGN PORTS.

5. FOR L/EB: PITMAN WILL BE IN OFFICE MONDAY.

RICHARDSON

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NNN

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